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Message Text

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55/46
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08

L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 OMB-01 NEA-10 DRC-01 /214 W
---------- 089621
R 091234Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4660
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN
USMISSION GENEVA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R MRN O N L Y, VICE 2890

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EC, FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON TNC PROCEDURES

1. AMBASSADOR EBERLE MET WITH DE MOREL, DIRECTOR OF DREE
AND FRENCH REP ON ARTICLE 113 COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 8 FOR
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INFORMAL DISCUSSION TNC PROBLEMS. EBERLE EXPLAINED RATIONALE

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FOR PRESIDENT'S RELUCTANT DECISION TO ASK HOUSE TO DELAY ACTION ON TRADE BILL. HE SAID THIS MEANT THAT REAL NEGOTIATIONS COULD NOW PROBABLY NOT BEGIN UNTIL SOMETIME DURING THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 74-JANUARY 75. THE QUESTION WAS HOW WE MANAGED TNC IN THE MEANTIME.

2. IN DISCUSSION THAT FOLLOWED, DE MOREL AGREED THAT THERD WAS RUSEFUL PREPARATORY WORK THAT COULD BE DONE IN TNC. (THIS WAS IN MARKED CONTRAST WITH VIEW WHICH BRUNET, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA, HAD EXPRESSED TO UNDER SECRETARY CASEY NOVEMBER 7 TO EFFECT THAT MOFT OF THE REAL GROUNDWORK HAD BEEN DONE LONG AGO. BRUNET SEEMED TO CONSIDER THAT IT WAS AN EXCESS OF ZEAL TO TRY TO KEEP THE TNC OCCUPIED UNTIL NEGOTATIONS COULD BEGIN.) AT THE SAME TIME, DE MOREL MADE CLEAR A STRONG FRENCH PREFERENCE FO USING EXISTING GATT COMMITTEES DURING PREPARATORY PHASE IF DISAGREEMENT ON COMPETENCE OF NEW WORKING GROUPS COULD NOT BE RESOLVED.
3. ACCORDING TO DE MORAL, ARTICLE 113 COMMITTEE HAD AGREED UNANIMOUSLY AT ITS NOVEMBER 7 MEETING THAT EC SHOULD STICK TO ITS GUNS IN INSISTING THAT AGRICULTURE COULD BE DISCUSSED ONLY IN AGRICULTURAL GROUP. HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE HAD ALSO AGREED UNANIMOUSLY THAT AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO FIND SOME WAY OUT OF THE PRESENT IMPASSE. THE COMMITTEE SUPPOROED THE PROPOSAL THAT INFORMAL U.S/EC/JAPAN DISCUSSIONS BE ORGANIZED BY LONG IN EFFORT TO FIND A SOLUTION. DE MOREL SAID GOF WAS FULLY PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS.

4. DE MOREL SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN DISAGREEMENT WITHIN THE ARTICLE 113 COMMITTEE ON WHAT POSITION THE EC SHOULD TAKE IF THESE DISCUSSIONS DID NOT LEAD TO A SOLUTION. SOME PRESENTATIVES FAVORED ACCEPTING THE LONG COMPROMISE PROPOSAL THAT THE TNC BE CONSTITUTED INTO A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, WHEREAS THE GOF FAVORED USING EXISTINGGATT STRKCTURDS.
DECON DECEMBER 31, 1976.
IRWIN

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